

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following replacement paragraph:

**[0015]** The subject matter of the invention is depicted schematically in the drawings and will be described below with reference to the Figures, identically functioning elements being labeled with the same reference characters. In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a side view of a microtome with a partial view into its interior;

FIG. 2 shows an embodiment of an incident illumination system according to the existing art;

FIG. 3 is a side view of a base-mounted illumination system having at least one light-emitting diode;

FIG. 4 is a front view of the base-mounted illumination system of FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is a side view of an incident illumination system having several light-emitting diodes;

FIG. 6 is a frontal view of the incident illumination system of FIG. 5; ~~and~~

FIG. 7 is a side view of an internal preparation illumination system[.]; and,

FIG. 8 is a side view of a microtome of the present invention with a partial view of the interior.

Please add the following paragraph after paragraph [0022]:

**[0022A]** Figure 8 is a side view of microtome 1 depicting the combination of three distinct illumination systems. Depicted in Figure 8 is incident illumination system 20, with light emitting diodes 41, as similarly shown in Figure 5. Base-mounted illumination system 30, as similarly shown in Figure 3, is also shown. Internal preparation system 50, as previously shown in Figure 7, is provided in specimen arm 3 behind preparation 5.